

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-10 ACDA-10 OMB-01 SAM-01 SAJ-01 NIC-01

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DRAFTED BY EA/ROC:TBLEHA:BDS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

UNCLAS STATE 234939

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TW

SUBJECT: FORMOSA RESOLUTION

1. FOLLOWING AP ARTICLE BY SPENCER DAVIS DATED
OCTOBER 22 REPEATED FOR YOUR INFORMATION.
2. QUOTE: PRESIDENT FORD IS EXPECTED TO QUIETLY BURY
THE FORMOSA RESOLUTION, IN WHICH CONGRESS DEMONSTRATED
US SUPPORT FOR NATIONALIST CHINA'S DEFENSE OF QUEMOY
AND MATSU ALMOST 20 YEARS AGO.
3. THE RESOLUTION WILL BE REPEALED WHEN FORD SIGNS
THE \$981 MILLION STATE DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZATION BILL
WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK. CHINESE DIPLOMATS HERE SAY
THERE WILL BE NO PRACTICAL EFFECT ON SECURITY FROM
THE REPEAL.
4. THE RESOLUTION WAS PASSED WHEN THE TWO ISLANDS OFF
THE CHINESE MAINLAND WERE UNDER CHINESE COMMUNIST ATTACK.

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5. REPEAL OF THE HISTORIC RESOLUTION DATING BACK TO

JAN. 29, 1955, DOES NOT SET ASIDE THE MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON TAIWAN (FORMOSA). THE TREATY, WHICH DOES NOT REQUIRE THE STATIONING OF US FORCES ON TAIWAN,

COMMITTS THE US TO "ACT TO MEET THE COMMON DANGER IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESSES."

6. THE EFFORTS OF THE US TO NORMALIZE ITS RELATIONS WITH THE PRC LEFT THE FORMOSA RESOLUTION DANGLING AS A REMINDER OF EARLIER DAYS.

7. THE STATE DEPARTMENT NEITHER OPPOSED NOR SUPPORTED THE REPEAL OF THE FORMOSA RESOLUTION. BUT THE DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT IT DID NOT AFFECT THE MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY WITH TAIWAN IN ANY WAY.

8. THE PRESENT US POSITION ON TAIWAN WAS EXPRESSED IN THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWING PRESIDENT NIXON'S VISIT TO PEKING IN FEBRUARY 1972.

9. THE COMMUNIQUE STATED, "THE US ACKNOWLEDGES THAT ALL CHINESE ON EITHER SIDE OF THE TAIWAN STRAIT MAINTAIN THAT THERE IS BUT ONE CHINA AND THAT TAIWAN IS A PART OF CHINA. THE US GOVERNMENT DOES NOT CHALLENGE THAT POSITION."

10. THE COMMUNIQUE ADDED THAT THE US IS INTERESTED IN A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE TAIWAN QUESTION BY THE CHINESE THEMSELVES, AND PLEDGED THAT ULTIMATELY ALL US FORCES AND MILITARY INSTALLATIONS WOULD BE WITHDRAWN FROM TAIWAN. UNQUOTE.

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